

Message Text

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16

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 027992

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFO, PO, EEC

SUBJECT: SOAMES' VISIT TO PORTUGAL

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 906, EC BRUSSELS 283

- (B) STATE 276188

1. AS PER REFTELS A, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WILL BE MAKING ITS
GESTURE IN PORTUGAL'S BEHALF SHORTLY. SIR CHRISTOPHER
SOAMES, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EC COMMISSION, WILL BE
VISITING LISBON, FEBRUARY 12-13.

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2. SIR CHRISTOPHER IS A PROMINENT CONSERVATIVE POLITICIAN, A HIGHLY-REGARDED "EUROPEAN," AND GIFTED SON-IN-LAW OF THE LATE SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL. HE HAS HELD THE IMPORTANT EXTERNAL RELATIONS PORTFOLIO IN THE COMMISSION SINCE JANUARY 1973.

3. SIR CHRISTOPHER WILL COME TO LISBON SEEKING HIGH-LEVEL TALKS AND MAXIMUM PUBLICITY FOR THE EC'S INTEREST IN PORTUGAL. DESPITE PRIOR PORTUGUESE REQUESTS (SEE REFTEL B), RATHER THAN ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS. THE EC APPARENTLY PREFERS TO AWAIT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THE PORTUGUESE DOMESTIC SCENE BEFORE COMMITTING ITSELF TO TRADE CONCESSIONS, ETC., TO PORTUGAL. THAT SAID, SIR CHRISTOPHER AND THE COMMUNITY ARE STRONGLY COMMITTED TO HELPING PORTUGAL AND WILL BE LOOKING FOR SPECIFIC PORTUGUESE SUGGESTIONS TO THAT END. KISSINGER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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To: LISBON INFO BONN
COPENHAGEN
EC BRUSSELS
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